## Office of Public Instruction

## **School Nutrition Programs**

The OPI School Nutrition Programs unit administers U.S. Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Programs and the State Cooperative Food Purchasing Program.

National School Lunch Program provides 102,847 nutritious lunches daily and the opportunity to practice skills learned in classroom nutrition education in 811 Montana Schools. The national School Lunch Program also offers programs that provide after school snacks and commodity foods.

After School Snack Program helps 178 schools in Montana serve snacks to 2,359 children in after school activities aimed at promoting the health and well being of children and youth in our communities. A school must provide children with regularly scheduled activities in an organized, structured and supervised environment that includes educational or enrichment activities.

Food Distribution Program coordinates the distribution of USDA purchased commodity foods to schools that provide lunches to students. The state entitlement of \$2,585,615 is dispersed to schools on a far share basis. Schools may use \$145,014 of the entitlement to purchase fresh produce through the Department of Defense Fruit and Vegetable Program.

School Breakfast Program provides 28,061 nutritious breakfasts daily in 625 Montana schools to promote learning readiness and healthy eating behaviors.

Special Milk Program provides milk to 1,793 children in 22 Montana schools who do not have access to other meal programs.

Summer Food Service Program helps 7,376 Montana children at 157 sites throughout the state get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

Team Nutrition Program provides schools with nutrition education materials for children and families; technical assistance for school food service director, managers, and staff; and resources to build school and community support for healthy eating and physical activity.

Cooperative Purchase Program allows small schools to take advantage of 25-40 percent cost savings through bulk purchasing of high-quality nutritious foods to 65 percent of Montana schools that provide school meals.

